United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1011

June 25, 2024

The Honorable Tammy Hull Inspector General United States Postal Service 1735 N. Lynn Street Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ms. Hull,

Earlier this month, my office received reports from the Clerk of Superior and Magistrate Courts of Fulton County outlining disturbing issues related to the U.S. Postal Service and a potential multi-year failure to deliver official legal correspondence to Georgians.

The Clerk reported that during the week of June 3, 2024, the Court received more than 1,100 letters that had been marked "return to sender" by USPS. The letters, which the Clerk noted include notices of hearings, orders from the Court, and other legal documents, never reached the intended recipients and were returned to the Court after major delays. One envelope, for example, was originally postmarked by the Court in August 2021 yet was only stamped "return to sender" on May 23, 2024.

While the full extent of the impact is still being determined, the Clerk raised the concern that these postal delays may have led to cases in which Georgia residents were possibly evicted without proper notice because the court hearing notice was never delivered by USPS.

If the Court's concern that this delay prevented notice in judicial proceedings is confirmed, this is a major example of both the importance of USPS and the consequences of its failures.

I call your attention to the reports raised by the Court of Fulton County and ask that you review them to understand the scope of what happened and what may have caused this egregious delay in mail delivery. Additionally, please inform my office of the outcome of any investigation.

Sincerely,

Jon Ossoff

United States Senator

CC:

The Honorable Ché Alexander, Fulton County Clerk of Superior and Magistrate Courts The Honorable Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service

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